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FLASHBACK

Preserving the Past for the Future

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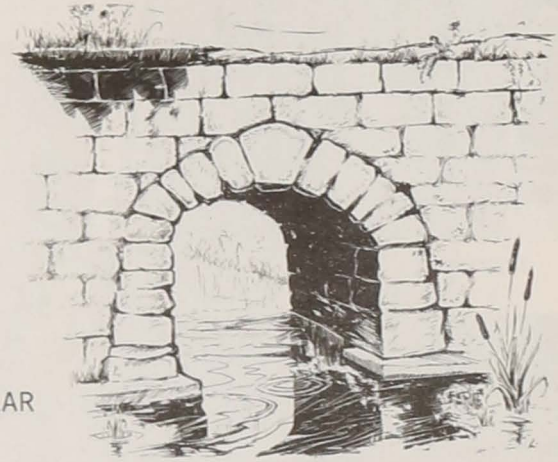
Sketch of Bridge by Author



THE KEY BRIDGE OF MIDDLE FORK

BY HELEN FINGER LEFLAR

In the broad and pleasant valley of the Middle Fork south of Elkins, there once lived a man who, mustered out of the Union Army after the skirmish at Fayetteville, purchased a fertile farm of 932 acres, raised cattle for the St. Louis market on it, built a sturdy and spacious home from bricks made on his own place, raised a large family, and in his later years built a remarkable key bridge. The capable man was Benjamin F. Johnson (1835-1929). His grandson, Hollace L. Cox, of the U. of A. class of 1924, is proud and protective of the skilled work of his pioneer ancestor. Recently, he halted the thoughtless destruction of the bridge by a utility company whose earth-moving machine was poised to tear through the structure.

This bridge spans a deep, wet-weather ravine at the entrance to the Cox's neat home lane. Its length measures about twenty feet, its breadth about twelve. The construction is patterned after the arch-style, mastered by the Romans and used with variations throughout the Middle Ages. No mortar was used. The strong base is of sandstone, upon which horizontal layers of rock rise toward the arch which supports the roadway above it. At this point, the accurately dressed, angular stones are so skillfully braced toward the keystone, the compression and tension so precise, that the dry-built bridge held sturdily without repair for sixty-six years. A flat layer of horizontal stone caps the arch, and forms a foundation for the earth-covered lane. In later years, as increasing traffic loosened the vertical stones, Hollace Cox has had a stone-mason point up the arch with enough cement to save the gracious old structure.

There may be other such bridges in the Ozarks, but the strong one built by Benjamin F. Johnson is a monument to a skill and ingenuity traceable back to Roman times but seldom seen in modern engineering.

THE NATHAN COMBS HOUSE

BY JIM MC CLARD & ROBERT HUGHES

The Nathan Combs house is located on Old Pump Station Road, southeast of the city of Fayetteville, Arkansas, just beyond Combs Chapel. At present the house is occupied by Mrs. Charles Cantrell Combs, the widow of the great-nephew of the original builder, Nathan Combs. Nathan Combs came to the Fayetteville area out of Breathhill County, Kentucky, at the age of twenty-three. Within a relatively short period of time he had become one of the largest land owners, as well as a leader in the agricultural field, with a farm totalling over 750 acres. About 480 of those 750-plus acres were later the site of his home.

A large portion of the site was bought by Nathan from George Cline, a captain in the War of 1812, who had come to Arkansas from Tennessee in 1838 and served two terms as state legislator. In 1855 Nathan married Elizabeth Cline, daughter of George Cline. Six years later they moved to the farm to live in a log cabin which had been built by Nathan. Because of the Civil War construction of their new house did not start until later in the 1860's. Nathan's son Isaac was raised on the farm, and he lived in what is now known as the Combs House. He attended Arkansas Industrial University and was among the first to graduate. He taught school for four years and farmed. His wife did not like living on the farm, so they built a home on Mountain Street. Isaac and his wife failed to have children, so by the terms of Nathan's will, the house and land went to the surviving sons of Nathan's brothers.

In 1923 Charles Cantrell Combs and his wife Elizabeth Thompson moved to the house from their home in Kentucky. Together, they raised four children there. Mrs. Combs still resides in the house.

According to Robert Combs, the great-great-nephew of Nathan Combs, the orchard which at one time contained fifteen hundred fruit trees was located due west of the house. He also thinks that some of the logs used by Nathan in building his first log cabin home on the site may be found in one of the present outbuildings.

The two-storey brick I-structure, with symmetrical east-facing facade, has a one-storey "L". A close examination reveals that this "L" is not an addition but is a part of the original structure.

A two-storey porch dominates the facade. Inside, end chimneys extend above the peak of each gable of the I-structure. The one-storey L contains a central chemney which services the

dining room and kitchen fireplaces. The solid brick walls begin at grade and extend to the cornice, including all of the gables. The front or eastern facade of the I-structure is composed of five bays, of which four contain windows. The remaining bay is the central one which contains the two-storey porch. This porch rests on a stone foundation, with three stone steps at the front.

A pair of four-inch-square, chamfered box columns, located at each front corner of the porch rise from the first level to support the second level. A pilaster of the same design as the columns is located at each rear corner og the porch at this level. At the second level, identical pairs of columns rise to support the pediment. Jigsaw ornamentation is attached directly below the architrave. The porch accents the main entry way to the structure. This entry consists of a four-paneled door (two tiers of molded panels) with vertical sidelights made of five panes of glass each. A transom, identical in pattern to the sidelights, rests above the door and sidelights. Fluted trim with corner blocks surrounds the door. The sidelights and transom are framed with plain trim. The opening is topped by a French flat arch.

On the second level of the porch is a four-paneled door with no sidelights. The other four bays of this facade contain six over six double hung windows at both the first and second storeys. The openings for these windows are topped by plain flat arches. The north wall of the "I" extends to the west, forming the north wall of the L. Near the junction of the L, there is a window at each level of the I. At the northwest corner of the L is a small, unsheltered porch. The concrete slab which forms the raised platform of this porch, is supported by stone construction. The door from the kitchen which opens onto this porch is aligned with the three stone steps which descend from the porch level to the ground. At present, the concrete slab has broken and collapsed.

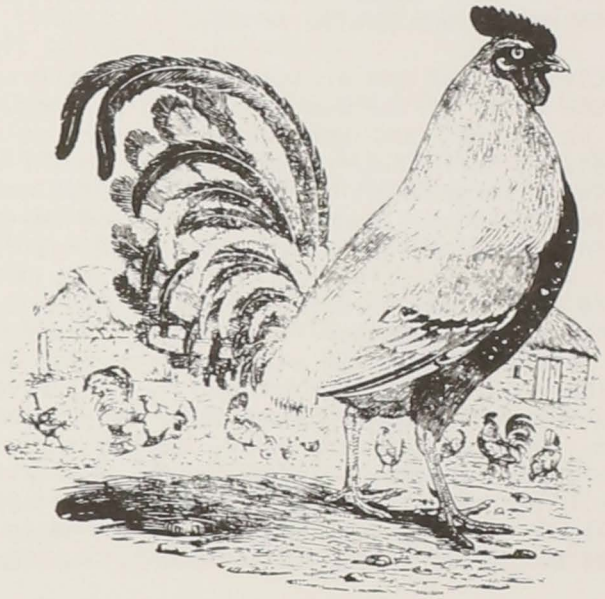
Between the door from the kitchen, and the junction of the I and the L are located two windows. All the windows and window openings, with one exception to be noted later, are identical to the ones on the front or east facade. The west or rear facade is divided into five bays. At the lower level, the first three bays are occupied by the L and a screened veranda. The two remaining bays on the first level and all five bays on the second level contain windows. It is on this facade as well as on the east and south facades that the exception to the window design occurs. Near the ground level, a small single-pane window opens into the cellar. On the east side of the south facade, near grade level, is an arched entry to a small cellar. One window is located at each level of the west corner of this facade. Italianate bracketing is spaced at irregular levels

along the cornice which encircles the I-structure. The brackets are spaced to accent the corners of the building and the window placement. Presently the roof is covered with composition shingles.

The Georgian floor plan is one room deep with a central hall flanked on each side by a single room. Access to the second level is gained by a three run open well stairway with a hand-carved, walnut handrail. The second level is identical to the plan of the first level. The L consists of two rooms separated by a double, central fireplace. The room nearest the I is the dining room. The remaining room is the kitchen.

Major alterations to the original structure include the addition of the screened veranda, the sealing of the cistern and construction of a modern bathroom over it, and reworking the fireplaces. In most cases, a piece of plywood has been cut to fit the fireplace openings, thereby closing them off to prevent heat loss. However, in two cases gas heaters have been placed in front of the hearth and the exhaust pipes have been run into the chimneys. In addition to these things, there have been installed eight three-quarter inch metal tension rods, because of storm damage prior to 1923. The plates for these rods are visible on the exterior of the structure. However, these rods obviously no longer perform their intended function, for they are in various states of deterioration.

(Note: This house is a good example of the substantial, two storey, red brick, Italianate-trimmed farm homes so popular in Washington County in the period of the late 1860's and 1870's)



THE BUSEY FAMILY

BY J. F. BUSEY

I can trace this family no farther than 1809, the year when Lazarus Whitehead Busey was born somewhere in Kentucky. He was my grandfather, and he had two brothers, Singleton and Samuel. The three brothers left Kentucky many years later, Samuel going to western Illinois, Singleton to eastern Kansas, and Lazarus to southeastern Iowa. From this time on, Singleton seems to be lost to history. Samuel and his sons homesteaded and bought a large trace of land lying between what are now the cities of Urbana and Champaign City. As time passed and the country settled, the two cities grew together enabling them to sell their lands at high prices. They engaged in agriculture, stock raising, and various business enterprises, among the latter being Busey Brothers Bank, one of the oldest banks in the West at Urbana. The State University is located at Urbana. Most of that family were on the Union side during the Civil War, one of the sons being a Colonel, who later gave Joe Cannon the only defeat he ever received. His name was Colonel S. Busey (it was probably Sam).

Lazarus W. Busey settled near Bloomfield, Davis County, Iowa. Being a brick mason, he accumulated quite a lot of property, especially farm lands. Also, he dealt largely in fine blooded horses. He married twice, having five children by each wife. By his first wife he had Dave, Mary Ann, Samuel, Elizabeth and Rebecca. By his second wife, he had James K., Benjamin, Charley, Frank and Margaret. All these sons with their wives, and the daughters with their husbands, are now deceased, most of them dying within the same twelve months.

During the Civil War he was an outstanding Southern sympathizer. After the close of the war and return of the Union soldiers, he was so snubbed and persecuted that he sold all his property, intending to settle in East Texas. On the way down, he had examined a large tract of land about five miles north of Fayetteville, Arkansas. Camping one night on the plains of east Texas, a norther came up early in the evening, after they had gone into camp. By cutting and burning grass and briers they managed to keep from freezing to death. As it was, the baby, Margaret, almost lost her life. He had several wagons and a lot of livestock with him. The next morning he turned his cavalcade back north and kept going till he arrived at the tract of land he had examined going down. He purchased more than a section, most of it in one body, paying spot cash for all of it. He kept the best 80, right on the road with a nice house and barn, for himself. He gave the 80 just east of him to David who was in Oregon, the next 80 east to Samuel, an 80 north of him to Benjamin; an 80 west of him to Rebecca who had

married Peter Cassat; the 80 west of her to Elizabeth who had married George Wade. None of the places had any improvements. He gave James K. an 80 about five miles west, with pretty good improvements. The rest of the heirs were to have his home and personal property at his death which occurred in 1878, just ten years after he had settled there. He never worked much after coming to Arkansas. He always kept laborers to attend to the farm duties, and a negro (Negro John) to take care of his fine horses. He passed most of his time visiting his children, and seeing if they were making good use of the homes he had given them. After his death, the home place went to his widow and Charlie and Frank. The widow passed away soon afterwards, and Charlie and Frank dissipated the other property.

Samuel Mathew Busey, third child by his first marriage, was born April 26, 1838, on the Busey farm near Bloomfield, Iowa. He was working on the farm when the war broke out. He served for a time in the Iowa Home Guards, but was never mustered into the army. In 1863 he married Martha Ann Hayes who lived in Downing, Scotland County, Missouri. He continued farming near his birth place until 1872, when he took his family to Jackson County, Missouri, near or between Independence and Kansas City. While living in Iowa, James Franklin, Hattie Jane, Mary Ann and John Elmer were born. Ida May was born in Missouri. While in Missouri, Uncle Jim and family lived near us most of the time. In 1875, a grasshopper plague completely devastated the whole country. On urgent requests from Grandpa Busey down in Arkansas to come and take the land he had given them, both families left Missouri in October, 1875. We were on the road for three weeks--three wagons, about ten children, and some loose stock. Mother had to be carried from the house to the wagon on account of a long siege of sickness. An old man drove one of the wagons for his passage to Arkansas.

Dave (died in infancy), Lula, and Ethel were born in Arkansas.

The 80 acres Grandpa gave us lay north and south, with about 10 acres across the north end in heavy timber, the rest a low prairie covered with a growth of grass and shrubs. We lost no time getting onto our new home. First we went into the northwest corner, cut the trees, dragged them to one side, pulled in long logs, and built a log cabin of one room, chinking it with pieces of timber and daubing it with mud. We cleared some of the timber land every winter, and broke quite a bit of sod on the prairie. Most of the prairie was left for hay, of which we put up hundreds of tons every autumn. Later, Father bought Uncle Dave's 80 for $500, and about 1881 sold the 160 for $2,200. He then bought an 80 over on Clear Creek about five miles away. His health kept failing and after all the children except Ethel had gone away, he sold that and moved to Fayetteville where he died April 19, 1906 and was buried at Mt. Comfort, a country

church about six miles northwest. Mother and Ethel lived on the place till her death, June 5, 1930. She was buried beside our father.

Samuel Busey's children will now be discussed, the writer at the last. Hattie Jane married Tom Bement, both dead, buried at Wetumka (OK). They had tweve children, one (Nell) dead.

Mary Ann married W. W. Jackson; he died January 1939, buried at Elm Springs. They had six boys and two girls. One (Loy) is dead.

John married Anna White of Neosho, both deceased, and buried at Williams, Arizona. Three sons--Ray, Leslie, and Jim--survive, living at Phoenix, Arizona (1941).

Ida married Henry Shaffer. She died at Fayetteville, Arkansas, in 1932, leaving two daughters, Wilma and Velma.

Lula married E. E. Decker and lives in Broadwater, Nebraska. They had seven daughters, two dead, two living in Los Angeles, and three in Broadwater (1941).

Little Dave died in infancy, as noted earlier, and is buried at Mt. Comfort.

Ethel, the baby, has never married. She has spent her entire life taking care of her parents in their declining years. She owns the old Fayetteville home place, willed to her by Mother, at the request of the rest of the children.

The writer of this sketch, first child of Samuel and Martha Busey, was born at Bloomfield, Iowa, March 23, 1864. He moved with his parents, first to Missouri, and then to Arkansas. He helped his father on the farm and attended the crude country schools, except one term when Father sent me to high school at Springdale. I began teaching country schools when I was 17 at $20 per month. At 24, I went to Arkansas University for parts of three years. (Editor's note: Mr. Busey failed to mention that he was living on a farm near Springdale while he attended the University of Arkansas, and walked to school. He cleaned "Old Main" before school and walked home after school.) Afterwards I taught in village and town schools till 1900, when I came to Oklahoma. In 1893 I married Roxie Meadors at her home near Alma, Arkansas, and I know I might have hunted the whole world over, and not found as good a wife. On my arrival here, I worked in a store at Francis, Oklahoma, till January, 1903, when Turner Meadors and I joined in a partnership at Wetumka. This partnership ended in 1914 when I ran for County Treasurer and served for four years. During World War I, I was chairman of the County Council of Defense. When my term as a county of-

ficial ended, I moved back to Wetumka where I had quite a lot of property, and accepted the vice presidency of the First National Bank. The bank failed in 1923, and with it went all my property and savings. I went back to Holdenville in 1930, and stayed there till 1937 when we came to Oklahoma City.

To me and my wife were born six children: Ralph L., born at the Blankenship property, three miles north of Fayetteville on December 12, 1894, graduate of Wetumka high school and Cumberland University Law school. He served in the 1929 legislature and served four years as county attorney of Hughes County, after which he practiced law at Holdenville, Oklahoma, until his death, July 15, 1939. Buried at Holdenville. Married Flossie Patterson of Jefferson City, Missouri. Had one child, Jimmie, of Holdenville.

Gladys, born at my father's home on Clear Creek on March 20, 1897. Married Alton E. Mathis; now living in Tulsa. Had one child, Virginia. She married Arthur Wallace, and now lives in Tulsa (1941).

Merle K. was born in an old house rented from Dr. Armstrong at Goshen, Arkansas, April 2, 1900. Attended public schools in Wetumka and Holdenville, Oklahoma. When he was sixteen he volunteered for service on the Mexican Border, after which he was mustered into the regular army for service in France, where he was in some of the most desperate battles on the front, beginning October 8. At one time almost his entire company was destroyed, but fortunately he came out with minor injuries. After his return from the army, he attended business college at Muscogee where he met and married Martha Hanyan. He is now in 1941 manager of the valet service at the Biltmore Hotel in Oklahoma City. They have two daughters, Betty, now Mrs. John F. Y. Stambaugh of Houston, Texas, and Patty, a senior in Classen high school, Oklahoma City.

Clyde, born at Francis, I. T. on October 25, 1902. Graduate of Wetumka high school, attended the University of Oklahoma, and graduated from Cumberland University Law School at the same time as his brother Ralph. Practiced law at Holdenville until 1936, when he was elected County Judge of Hughes County, which position he still (in 1941) occupies. Married Maud Kitchen of Moore, Oklahoma. Have on daughter, Jo Ann.

Bessie Louise, born at Wetumka, January 21, 1908. A graduate of Wetumka high school, she entered Oklahoma Baptist University at Shawnee, but had to quit on account of her health. Married Oscar Dever of Okemah, who died at Sayre, Oklahoma, on September 23, 1927, and is buried at Holdenville. They had two sons: Jack, born April 23, 1927; and Billy Tom, born August 20, 1932. After her husband's death, my wife and I moved with her to Ok-

lahoma City, where she attended Hills Business College and now (1941) works for the Oklahoma Gas & Electric Co.

Lorene was born at Wetumka August 10, 1910. She attended O. B. U. three years and graduated at the University of Arkansas, June, 1930. She taught for ten years at Mounds, Spaulding and Kite. She first married Pete Hawthorne, and after five years, divorced him and married Gus Uptegraff. She has no children, and now lives near Allen Oklahoma.

Reflections and Corrections

There are probably some errors in this story, as it is written entirely from memory.

Ralph served on the Mexican Border at the same time Merle did but was rejected two or three times for overseas service, on a physical examination. He worked in a clerical capacity at Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, till the close of the war.

While I lived at Wetumka, I took an active part in all civic affairs, being mayor, president of chamber of commerce, chairman of the Red Cross, etc.

Taking it all in all, God has been good to me. I have never suffered for any of the necessaries of life, nor had any serious injury or sickness. My children, while most of them have done things I didn't approve, still they have loved me and respected me, and are kind to me. For a long time, I was living in a fool's paradise. I had three sons and their wives, three daughters and their husbands--twelve in all. I was foolish to think it would always be that way, never thinking what death could do. First came the passing of Oscar, dealing me an awful blow. Then came Ralph's sudden death, nearly finishing me. I still grieve after them.

(Editor's note: Unfortunately, we have no information about how long Mr. Busey lived after finishing this memoir.)

Submitted by Robert D. Plumlee

SIFT THRU

THOSE OLD STOREROOM TREASURES
FOR FLASHBACK

JOHN ROLLIN RIDGE in California

EDITED BY PAT DONAT

(In this final chapter of John Rollin Ridge's saga of the 1849 gold rush, the Fayetteville party reaches Yuba City, California and the end of its journey. See FLASHBACK, February, 1978.)

About two o'clock in the morning we got thro' the desert and there on its edge, rolling like silver in the moonlight, ran the beautiful waters of the Salmon Trout River. The river was lined with trading posts of which we must buy provisions 'fore we were out entire. Next morning then we concluded to take our horses to a range, but first bought grass to relieve their immediate wants at 15 cents per bundle--bundles very small. Found a range at last which was not filled with animals but which had been picked over by the whole preceding immigration. It was the best we could do so we put our animals on it.

For the first time, we now had doubts about our mules bringing such enormous prices as had been represented. I had spent the last cent I had up in the legitimate expenses of the road, and I had now to sell a mule for something to eat. Accordingly, I offered to sell at the different trading posts and was astonished to find they would give me only $11 for my poorest mules, only $30 for my middling, only $40 for my best, and only $10 for the Snake poney!

At the same time, they asked me two dollars a pound for hard bread and crackers, a dollar and a half for a pound of flour. I felt strange like all over! I scratched my head several times! Indeed, I was considerably addled! At last Aeneas and I concluded to sell his little mule--so, after hard trying, we made what those traders told us was a great bargain, i. e. we got 15 pounds of flour for her, and 8 dollars in money, with which we bought meat, etc. I found, after getting to California, that those traders were making great speculations by buying poor stock at cheap rates and afterwards selling them when they were fattened for California prices, i. e. $100 for an ox of common size and $150 for a common good horse.

There were thousands of horses and cattle sold, when we sold our mule, by immigrants who were obliged to have something to eat or whose animals were giving out. I have seen a first rate horse, tho' poor, sell for eight dollars! Cattle in the same way. My little black mule was failing so fast that rather than let him die on the road, I sold him to a skinflint for 11 dollars.

We left Salmon Trout River in a day or two. We crossed several more deserts, 15 or 20 miles without grass or water, 'til

we reached Carson's Valley. Bought beef there at fifty cents a pound. Grass excellent.

We struck the Sierra Nevada eighty miles across. There we would be in the first gold diggings. The ascent and descent of those mountains were awful, transcending all that I had ever dreamed. Fancy yourself walking over the side of a mountain five miles from the foot--by road--and then, looking ahead, see the road winding around another, way up in the sky above you. But I will leave the Sierra Nevada to a description when I get home. I will then have plenty of time to describe them and the tedious route over them. We walked the entire distance. There were trading posts all along the mountains. No grass for our horses except what hay we bought at 20 cents a pound.

Our provisions again gave out, and we had to pay two dollars a pound for crackers and a dollar a pound for meat. It costs about twelve dollars a day along the mountains to live at all. We made out to half live at six and eight dollars! It took us a week to get over the eighty miles on the mountains. At last we reached Hangtown or Placerville, at the western foot of the mountains. There I sold my next best mule for 45 dollars.

We stayed around there several days, recruiting, and in the meantime, spent nearly all of the $45 in feeding ourselves and mules and horses. Nevertheless, provisions were cheaper here than back, as a matter of course. We could get a good-sized biscuit for 12 1/2 cents; hay 10 to 12 cents a pound. There I sold the Snake poney for 35 dollars.

We now looked round to see what would be the chance for digging. Thousands were already digging in the town itself and at every little hole for six miles up and down the creek. There was not a solitary place to dig. Every claim was taken up. I never saw such a game in my life. A very few of those who were digging there made an average of $50 a day, whilst others made from $20 to $16, from that to $5 and from $5 to 50 cents a day or nothing. The above rates of success in digging will serve as a standard for the digging over the whole country.

There is an immense sight of gold in the bowels of the earth. But it is hard to get at and to get it in large quantities depends entirely upon luck. There is no certainty in it, any more than in a game of cards. At all the diggings, $5 or $4 a day is got out by almost every miner. This is, in reality, a great yield, but it don't make the fortune of a miner because his expenses swallow it up.

Besides, mining is the hardest work that ever human being performed, and miners are obliged to rest for days at a time--take holidays and recruit themselves. While they are resting,

their money is passing into other hands.

Reports have been much exaggerated -- There is not more than one out of every thousand of the miners who makes a fortune. Base your estimate upon that. Nevertheless, so many thousands adigging puts an immense amount of gold dust into circulation, and if one can get into any business about towns or on the rivers, it will come to him like magic. If one can't get into business his only resort is in the mines--there he can at least make expenses, perhaps a fortune--if he is only lucky! Expenses in the towns and cities are less than anywhere else. Living is higher at the mines.

As to the locality of the mines, they are found generally in the ravines, sometimes on the banks of rivers. These ravines are found at the foot of the mountains, and in them, and are often difficult of access. One season usually serves to dig a ravine clear out. After they exhaust the gold in one place, the miners go about prospecting, as it is termed; that is they pack a mule with a great, heavy box--the gold washer and other heavy mining utensils--and travel day after day over the mountains in search of more gold places.

They are obliged to dig deep, ere the place is sufficiently tested, and try the earth in the "washer" before they can determine whether there is much gold. Thus, they work hard every day digging many holes without finding gold. This is very disheartening. Hundreds have spent all that they had previously acquired in this necessary business of "prospecting". No man has ever made $50,000 by digging in California--so, at least I am told. In a few instances some have dug $20,000 but very few compared with the overwhelming population.

A good many miners went home this season with large fortunes. But most of last year's immigration cannot get home at all. I saw a good number of those with whom I am acquainted, who came here last year, and only two or three had more than enough to bring them home, of those whom I saw, while the rest had not enough to get home.

But I am leaving myself all this time at Hangtown.

I concluded to go on to Sacramento and there to make enquiries that would enable me to find someplace where we could make money. I found after I got there that everything was as blind as before.

I got correct information about the mines, and notwithstanding the difficulties in the way, we concluded to try our luck. We got a whale boat--having sold our remaining mules for only $75 a piece--and came up the Sacramento River to the mouth of

Feather River, and up that to this place, Yuba City.

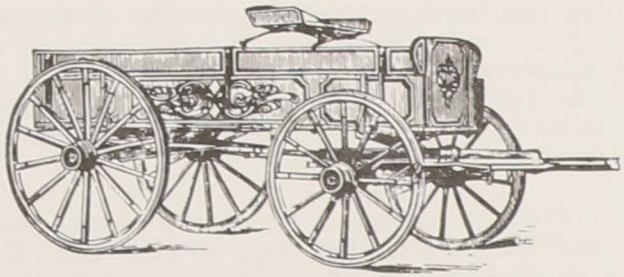
Here I concluded that it would be best for us to go into another business than mining, just as we could get it to do. I do not now regret we did so. We tramped around this city and the city across the river, Marysville, for a week or two without finding a job.

At last we commenced getting into luck and from that time to this have been, as we still are, doing remarkably well--Aeneas driving a team at excellent wages, Wacoli hired out at ditto, while I have been replenishing my purse quite briskly. I say we are doing well, but unlike some letter writers home, we are not making thousands a month. But if our luck holds out we will make money. Indeed, we could get rich, I believe, right off, if it did not cost such an enormous sum to live. Anybody can make enough to live on, and do it easy. It is a false report that any are starving in California. There is more money in circulation here than one would imagine.

I have written a long letter and in haste. I hope I have given you some idea of California--its advantages and contra. We must not be too sanguine, for everything is so unstable and uncertain here that it is said, with much truth, everything depends on luck.

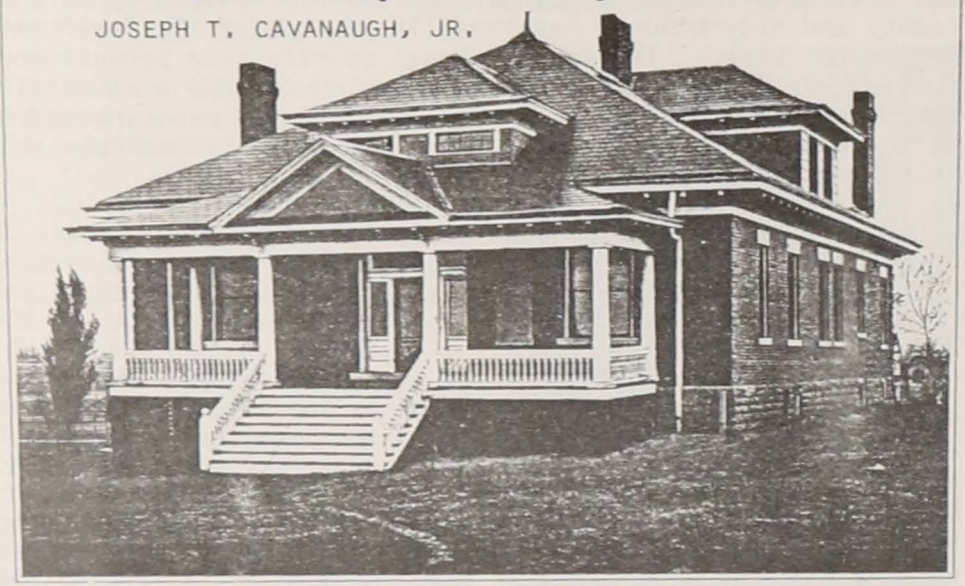
I have no space or time to describe the climate, fruits, the flowers, etc., but they are all very fine. I am perfectly delighted with the climate. We have good health. It is the finest grazing country the sun ever shone upon, grass green all the year.

(John Rollin Ridge never returned "home" although his letter makes it pretty obvious he planned to do so as soon as he "got rich". Aeneas did return to Fayetteville, and so did Wacoli. John Rollin remained in California, gaining considerable fame as a newspaper editor at Marysville, and later in Grass Valley where he died in 1867.)



The University Infirmary Association

JOSEPH T. CAVANAUGH, JR.



The First Infirmary Building (from History of the University of Arkansas, by J. H. Reynolds & D. Y. Thomas, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, 1910)

The development of student health services at the University of Arkansas was not an automatic extension of the school's growth. The lack of financial resources of a scarcely populated state made the idea of large university appropriations seem unreasonable in the 19th century. The concept of an infirmary building was not considered; Fayetteville itself did not have a hospital. Practice of 19th century medicine centered around the doctor, not the hospital. This was especially true in rural areas.

The transition to decent medical care for students of Arkansas Industrial University would not have been so easily or successfully accomplished were it not for a number of Fayetteville women. By virtue of their position in 19th century America, these women were the natural segment of society to undertake the chore of operating an infirmary. Their association was praised often by academic and legislative leaders. The early school would have had considerable difficulty dealing with the student health care during the period of rapid growth, were it not for their aid. The University Infirmary Association joined the Arkansas Federation of Women's Clubs in 1902, and was typical of working women's clubs everywhere.

Since the founding of Arkansas Industrial University, there

had been a close working relationship between the school and its neighboring city of Fayetteville. Early records indicate the city gave financial support to the new university through county and city bonds. Fayetteville was one of the "dry" cities of the state. The lack of legal spirits made parents more comfortable in allowing their children to attend a university here, and the clean mountain air of the region was supposed to be so good for health that in 1894 Governor Fishback was able to claim:

> During the past year there have been upwards of six hundred students in attendance, and yet there has not been a single death from disease, and only two cases of serious illness.
>
> ...This record is believed unparalleled, and vindicates the location of the Arkansas Industrial University near the healthy, cultured and beautiful city of Fayetteville.

Up until this time, the university held its academic session predominantly during the warmer months, with an extended vacation in the winter. To better suit the needs of a largely rural population, the University Board of Trustees, in June 1895 decided to change the vacation time from winter to summer.

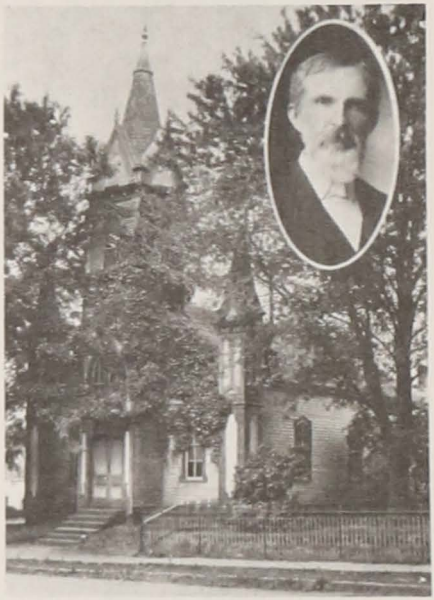
Only about 100 non-resident men were living in the dormitory on campus. The rest of the men, and all of the women students, were boarded at suitable homes in Fayetteville off the campus. There had been considerable argument as to the advisability of allowing women to attend Arkansas Industrial University. It was claimed by opponents that women students offered considerable distraction to the serious male student. They suggested a number of excellent female academies in neighboring states as alternatives. Another possibility was for the state to construct another school in another part of the state, concentrating on courses of study appropriate for women. Nevertheless, women were allowed to remain on the Fayetteville campus, largely through the efforts of the university's president, Dr. Buchannan.

In the dormitory, two rooms had been set aside for ill students, but the students had to depend on private doctors to get medical treatment. In 1889, the state assembly had appropriated $250 to the university for infirmary expenses. This was a one-time effort, and by 1895 the infirmary rooms were in a bad state of repair.

The Board of Trustees did not show concern about the health of the students in the new winter schedule until December 17, 1895. President Buchannan was able to report student health

was "remarkably good" at that time. This belated concern was not voiced until after the cold weather had begun. It was also a full month after the women of Fayetteville had addressed themselves to this problem.

On Sunday, November 17, 1895, there was an announcement from the pulpits of six churches asking the ladies of Fayetteville to meet the next day in response to this problem. The following afternoon, twenty women met at the home of the Rev. S. W. Davies of the Presbyterian Church. "The ladies were unanimous in expressing their willingness to assist in rendering more comfortable the students who may fall sick in the dormitory. The chairman (Mrs. Davies) read a communication from Dr. Buchannan which was very encouraging." Accordingly, these women formed an organization to be called the University Infirmary Association and elected their first officers with unstipulated terms of office.



First Presbyterian Church and the Rev. S. W. Davies

The officers were typical of all the association members. Their husbands were active in the business, professional, or academic community, and the ladies were generally active in church-related and club work. Those Protestant churches from which they came were the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Episcopal Church, Central Presbyterian Church-South, the Christian Church, the Missionary Baptist Church, and the Central Presbyterian Church. The newly elected officers were:

Mrs. S. W. Davies, President. Mrs. Davies was born in 1849; her maiden name was Sallie Green. Her father was the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Little Rock. She married the Rev. S. W. Davies in 1872, and they moved to Fayetteville in 1876. She taught Bible class and had a serious interest in the welfare of the university students. In fact, she boarded some of them at her home which was next to the Presbyterian Church on College Avenue.

Mrs. J. A. Ferguson, Vice President. Mrs. Ferguson was born in 1848 in Richland, Arkansas. Her maiden name was Nannie Evelyn Tuttle. She moved to Fayetteville in 1868, after marriage to James Andrew Ferguson, local lumberman and financier. She

was well known for devoted work in the Episcopal Church and in Southern Memorial activities.

Mrs. Harvey M. Hudgins, Secretary. Mrs. Hudgins was born in 1858; her maiden name was Nora Blakely. She had graduated from the Arkansas Industrial University in 1878, and taught at the university for a few years before marriage to Harvey Hudgins of Hot Springs. She moved with her family to Fayetteville in 1895, in order to be near the university as the children came of age for admission. Harvey Hudgins was a realtor; he eventually owned about half of the Fayetteville square, and ran the opera house. Mrs. Hudgins was very active in the First Baptist Church and taught her children at home; some went on to graduate from the university.

Mrs. H. F. Reagan, Treasurer. Mrs. Reagan's maiden name was Mary Belle Agee. She married Hugh Reagan, part-owner of the Arkansas Sentinel, in 1884. In January of 1895 he was elected treasurer of the University's Board of Trustees, which may have been instrumental in the election of his wife to the same position in the Infirmary Association eleven months later.

Mrs. Reagan and her soliciting "Committee on Donations", had gathered many of the necessary items by the next meeting, as well as cash contributions totaling $33.50. As items were received, they were labeled. Clean rags were collected for use as bandages, cleaning rags and washcloths, The Association began using the monetary contributions to purchase small furniture and expendables for the infirmary, such as oil for lamps. They were frugal with their limited resources and rarely spent more than a few dollars a month--often no money at all for an entire month. Later they began using funds for the payment of a nurse when one was needed for an especially sick student.

In 1897, the Association began changing the emphasis of club activities. Early physical work gradually changed to administrative and unofficial lobbying efforts. There were more frequent lapses in attendance at meetings; occasionally a meeting even had to be cancelled when only two or three members attended. Yet, absent members assigned committee duty for any given month apparently continued to accomplish the necessary work. However, in February of 1897 the Association hired a non-member (Mrs. Dobbs) to clean the infirmary rooms and do the washing of linens when necessary. Though part-time, Mrs. Dobbs was the first infirmary employee.

During the next few years, the university began its efforts to gain nationwide acceptance. Employment standards were elevated for teachers at all state schools, particularly the university. Most of the university's efforts toward gaining recognition until this time had been directed at the citizens of

Arkansas. Summer recruitment efforts by members of the staff had been the standard practice for increasing attendance. Now in the spirit of the progressive era, major innovations took place. In-state recruitment efforts were increased somewhat, and catalogs which featured the better aspects of the school were mailed on request out of state. In 1899, the Board of Trustees officially renamed the Arkansas Industrial University the University of Arkansas--a name which suggested and encouraged curriculum expansion.

In 1901, a second dormitory for men, Hill Hall, was built to house another one hundred students. The university's board of trustees made a significant improvement toward the growth of health care that same year.

> On motion of Trustee Langford, Dr. W. N. Yates was elected to the position of Physician of the University of Arkansas, to furnish health and disability certificates to the university students at a price no(t) exceeding fifty cents per student, said certificate only to be furnished when necessary.

Dr. Yates was a highly respected doctor who moved to Fayetteville in 1889. His wife, Elizabeth Yates, was a leading member of the University Infirmary Association. She was elected secretary for a year, later vice president, and in 1906 she became the last president of the association. Her husband's appointment as university physician further insured good relations between the association and the infirmary.

There were two significant developments during the 1901-1902 school year that would have an effect a few years later. Some of the dormitory students convinced President Buchannan that they possessed sufficient leadership capability and responsibility to allow them to form "...a voluntary organization for the maintenance of order in the building." The student organization was to provide for the cleanliness and order of the buildings and their occupants. This system started with the best of intentions. However, the Infirmary Association would no longer be as active in the dormitories, though they continued their visiting committees, they managed the funding, and annually they refurbished and cleaned the infirmary rooms.

The other development was that in 1901 the Board of Trustees designated the first infirmary building. This was an existing structure called the pomologist's building. In 1899 the board of trustees had established a new office: Vice President and Pomologist of the Agricultural Experiment Station. Interest in the development of the fruit industry in this region led to this appointment, which was established with a four-year contract. In May of 1901, the legislature, in its university

appropriation bill, specifically abolished the position and ordered the board of trustees to stop paying the pomologist, W. G. Vincenheller. On June 20, at the board of trustees meeting, a resolution was adopted, stating,

> ...that the building now occupied by the Pomologist of the Experiment Station be turned over to the University Infirmary Association, to be used as a Hospital for the students attending the University of Arkansas, provided a suit now pending in the (state) Supreme Court in this particular is decided in favor of the University.

The suit referred to, Vincenheller (pomologist) vs. Reagan (treasurer, board of trustees), involved wages Mr. Vincenheller said were due him. He was hired with a four year contract, and specifically wanted to be paid for the work he had already done in May. Mr. Reagan and the university won the suit; the court felt that as the school was a state institution, the legislature had acted within its jurisdiction in abolishing the position of Pomologist. For no explicable reason, however, on June 16, 1902, the board of trustees reversed its earlier position. As a result, the pomologist's building could not be used as an infirmary.

Another important, but unrelated development occurred at the same meeting. Due to ill health John L. Buchannan resigned as president of the university. In a unanimous election on July 15, the board of trustees chose Henry Hartzog to succeed him. President Hartzog, it turned out, was the perfect example of the progressive spirit at work.

Only 36 years old when appointed as the new president, he already had five years experience as president of Clemson College in South Carolina. Henry Hartzog was "...personable and energetic...a Baptist minister as well as an educator, and... an effective public speaker." He came to Arkansas intending to make the university among the best in the country. Primarily through his personal power and energy, the university began a period of rapid expansion in every area. Enrollment, which had remained at about 600 students (Fayetteville), since 1895, began climbing. It was over 800 when Dr. Hartzog left in 1905 and had reached more than 1,000 by 1907. The existing program to recruit new students during the summer was expanded. President Hartzog began lending his own speaking abilities to this effort. In combination with the new governor, Jefferson Davis, he worked on developing a building program for the university, aimed at making it at least equal to other state universities, especially those in neighboring states.

On November 11, 1904, a student named Wallace Montgomery Car-

others of Starksville, Mississippi died of an undetermined illness. After a local service, Dr. Hartzog accompanied the body to Starksville. On his return, he related the details of his journey to the students. The Fayetteville Democrat, in reporting the event, said,

> While in Starksville, Dr. Hartzog visited the State Mechanical and Agricultural College there and inspected the infirmary and hospital now in process of construction at a cost of $11,000.00. Mississippi appropriates five times as much as does our state, although she is poorer and has a smaller white population.
>
> Mississippi expends $645,000 per annum on education, while we appropriate only $145,000 for the same purpose. Our state may be doing well in this respect, but is able to do better. Dr. Hartzog will, through the board of trustees, petition the legislature to build a hospital for the state university, which will allow the management to so segregate sick students that no danger of contamination would disturb other students. Smallpox, or any other malignant disease, is more or less liable to break out in any large school and unless...provision has been made for complete isolation inhumanity to the afflicted or great danger to the rest of the school (could result).

Dr. Hartzog's appeal for an infirmary was too late. Within a week of that speech, an epidemic of typhoid fever swept thru the dormitory, adding further incentive for an infirmary building appropriation. On November 26th, Governor Davis called an emergency session of the board of trustees. After investigating the situation, the board concluded that the cause of the epidemic was the unsanitary dormitory. Insufficient baths, sewers and closets for the increasing enrollment were cited.

Since no appropriation for the needed improvements would be available until the legislative session the following year, all they could do immediately was to insure the existing facilities were as clean as possible. If there was no success abating the problem, the board recommended closing the school for the remainder of the year. Captain R. B. Powers, commandant of the university's military program, took command of the cleanup. He was ordered by the board of trustees "...to place the management of these dormitories upon a strict military basis such as maintained at West Point, regarding the care and cleanliness of the sleeping apartments, kitchen, dining room, and all buildings and grounds intrusted to his care." Captain Powers' cleaning of the dormitories was successful enough to keep the university open.

The epidemic was enough of a stimulation to begin the legislative process that would eventually give the university a real infirmary. Governor Davis, in his message opening the legislative session in January, 1905 cited the epidemic and the unsanitary conditions which made it possible. He attributed the problem to three groups: the students, whose volunteer dormitory group had been in actual charge since 1901; the faculty, for not keeping better watch over the students; and the legislature for not appropriating sufficient sanitary facilities. Governor Davis and Dr. Hartzog recommended for 1905 the largest university appropriation in the history of the school.

The legislature's annual joint committee to visit the University of Arkansas in 1905 agreed with the recommendation for an infirmary in their published report. They gave a short history of student health care, mentioning, "From 1895 to 1897, the Infirmary Association, composed of the good ladies of Fayetteville, bore the entire burden of seeing that the sick were nursed and properly cared for." The report went on to mention the financial support from the legislature in 1897, but concluded, "The outbreak of typhoid fever in the dormitory last fall has proven conclusively that this plan of taking care of the sick in the dormitories is unsafe and unsatisfactory." It also listed receipts and expenditures for the infirmary which showed that of the $350 allocated the previous year, $3.55 remained. Even with an epidemic, the ladies had managed to stay within their budget.

The bill that Senator Thompson of Farmington introduced that year included an appropriation of $5,000 for an infirmary--one of the few parts of the bill not challenged during its passage through committees.

On July 25, the board of trustees approved Governor Davis's recommendation that plans by architects Reed and Heckenlively be accepted for several buildings, including those for the infirmary. The building was under construction for two years. It had a kitchen in the basement, quarters for a nurse on the second floor, and an attic for storage. There were two bathrooms on the main floor, and thirteen or fourteen beds, divided among several rooms. It was built on the northwest corner of the campus in close proximity to the school laundry.

In 1905, Henry Hartzog was dismissed as president of the university. Consequently, he never saw the completion of this building, or any of the others for which he had worked so hard.

In April of 1906, Mrs. Davies asked that he resignation be accepted as president of the Infirmary Association; she was no longer able to keep up the work. On motion, her name remained on the roll as an honorary member in good standing.

OLD CIRCUIT COURT

BY LLOYD MC CONNELL

The Circuit Court, on May 16th, 1887, summoned the following persons to serve on the Grand Jury: John R. Harris, John Rollins, Elijah Webb, Spate Spivey, C. M. Henry, Steve Gilbreath, Felix Kennebrough, Robert Parks, Howell Hodges (who did not appear), John Buchanan (who was a school director and was therefor excused), Ellis Carney, E. Z. Davies, W. F. Dowell, Thomas Smith, T. W. Frost, Jack Ballard (excused), S. P. Shreve, James Bragg and B. F. Smith. Willie Hutchens was excused as a Deputy Sheriff, and Ranson Ritter and John Smith likewise did not act as jurors.

The petit jury included the names of J. D. Van Winkle, W. A. Joyce, William Mullins, Samuel Walker, Anderson Sanders, Henry Eidson, James Blakemore, Ben Deaver, George Taylor, William H. Blanton, William Sullins, S. B. Marrs, John Mayberry, Pleasant Gibson, William B. Rhea, Dan Thomason, William Watts, Mitchell Bryant, Henry Funkhouser, T. B. Greer, Jacob White, Jack Mount, Noah Edmiston, Lafayette Brewster, James Carnes, Brooks Adair, Joseph Cato, Dillard Miller, Arkansas Wilson and Bose Trant.

Those excused included: William Mullins, S. B. Marrs, T. B. Greer, Don Thomason, James Carnes, and Jack Mount.

Several citizens were called before the bench by Judge J. M. Pittman to answer charges filed against them by the Grand Jury and many fines were levied for disturbances, disturbing public worship, wearing weapons, and breach of the peace, all reported to the Grand Jury by some citizens who disapproved of such actions at gatherings in the county.

Included in the list of defendants were Fred Lazier, $20.00 for fighting; Jack Post, $50.00 for wearing a pistol, William Asher, $1.00 for "salt and battery"; Ben Ross, $20.00 for disturbing religious congregation; John Paschall, for assault and battery and breach of the peace, $5.00 on each charge.

E. J. Sanders, $1.00 on each of three counts for assault and battery; Thompson Oxford, breach of the peace (jury trial) for $35.00; Isaac Johnson, $5.00 for a breach of the peace; James Davis carried a pistol and suffered a levy of $50.00. Pollard Edmiston was fined $5.00 and James Pool $1.00 for disturbances. Quantrel Macon asked for a jury trial for disturbing the peace and was assessed $25.00.

William Davis wore a gun to meeting and it cost him a $50.00 bill. Quantrel Macon was back in court, with Riley Blackburn, and both paid $5.00. William Dold was accused of selling liq-

uor without a license, and the jury declared a $200.00 penalty with a credit of 75 cents per day for work on public bridges.

Pat Smith was charged with cruelty to animals--he might have been beating a horse over the head with a two-by-four or simply racing him too long on public highways. Anyway, it cost him $1.00. Stonewall Holcomb wore a weapon $50.00 worth, and Joe Winn was in a fight which cost him $25.00.

Murder charges were filed against Sam Jones and C. F. Overman, and "accessory before the fact of murder" faced William W. Smith. Twenty persons signed a bond for transfer of the trial to Benton County.

William Perry faced many charges of assault and battery, disturbing the peace, and even drawing a weapon on a deputy sheriff. He, too, claimed he could not receive a fair trial in Washington County and asked that his case be transferred to Bentonville. Another charge against him included arson.

Samuel John Collister asked that his name be changed from Farquahar to Collister because, after coming from Ireland, he lived with a family named Collister, had married and had six children under that name. The Court granted his request (genealogists take note when tracing this name). A prominent citizen, Hosea Maguire, was charged with selling liquor without a license and his penalty was set at $200.00.

A jury found C. F. Overman guilty, and ordered him to hang. He appealed the case to the Supreme Court. A later entry on the court docket shows the Washington County case nol prossed.

Lizzie Robertson faced a murder charge, was found insane by a jury, and ordered returned to Carroll County for disposition by that court.

The Fayetteville & Little Rock Railway Company filed several condemnation suits against lands running southeast of Fayetteville, particularly through the Combs Chapel area.

George F. Deane was serving as Sheriff.

Do you have a good story about Washington County's early history? Submit it to FLASHBACK.

A SHORT HISTORY OF MORROW

BY CONRAD RUSSELL

The community of Morrow, Arkansas was founded by George Morrow. He was born in Abbeville, South Carolina in 1800 and was married to Miss Elizabeth Buchanan in Fort Smith, Arkansas, on December 28, 1820. He was listed in the 1830 census as a resident of Washington County.

In establishing the pioneer community, he purchased a large tract of land and built a substantial log house. According to family tradition, the house was built around 1828 to 1832, and it is owned at the present time by a fourth generation of the Morrow family.

Three generations of Morrows were born in this old home, and it is in better condition today that some which were built 100 years later.

In 1832 George Morrow presented himself to the Presbytery of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church as a candidate for the ministry. He was placed in the care of the Rev. John Buchanan and the Rev. Benjamin Pierson, who superintended his education. He learned rapidly and in a few years, it was said, he could pass for a college-bred man before any congregation.

He was accepted, and ordained, as a Cumberland Presbyterian minister at a meeting of Presbytery at Mulberry campground, in Franklin County, Arkansas in July, 1846.

He preached for many years. When elderly he was thrown from a horse and so injured that he could not mount a horse again. He died in 1892. His wife Elizabeth died July 25, 1877.

Their youngest son, George Wilson (Dick) Morrow, born May 2, 1842, obtained a good education. But the Civil War started in 1861 and he, like many other men of that time, enlisted in the Confederate Army. He served with Company B, 34th Arkansas Infantry and was in the battle of Prairie Grove. He served all through the war, returning to his home in 1865. That same year on December 7, he was married to Samantha Russell.

They made their home in the town of Morrow, where they owned and operated the Morrow farm, living in the house built about 1828.

The second George Morrow was not only a good farmer, he also taught school, served as a Justice of the Peace, and was Washington County Assessor.

Soon after the war, there was a rumor of mineral deposits in the Morrow area. The town was called Leadville for a time.

In 1875, George Morrow, and other prominent men of the area, formed a company to prospect for minerals of all kinds and fossil substances, and for mining.

In 1900 the Washington County Lead and Zinc Co. incorporated under state laws, with a capital stock of $100,000 fully paid. Stock was sold at $25.00 per share. They leased a part of the Morrow farm and started operations. In 1908, another company obtained the lease, the Vineyard Mining and Smelting Co. of Morrowsville, Arkansas. Mining was carried on periodically for a number of years. A mill for crushing and separating the mineral from waste was built. But, while the mineral was of good quality, the mines failed--possibly from lack of transportation or the vein may have played out.

Of the two names submitted to the post office authorities--Leadville and Morrow--Morrow was the name selected for the office. The village was called Morrowsville for a time, but so far no record has been found of a post office called Morrowsville. Morrow owned 36 lots in the village in its early days.

Mr. George Wilson Morrow passed away in 1935; his wife, Samantha, died in 1905.

Hugh Oscar Morrow, son of George Wilson and Samantha Morrow, born Dec. 6, 1876, was the head of the third generation family to live in the pioneer home. He was married to Mary Elizabeth Cole on June 5, 1904.

He followed the tradition of his ancestors by serving on the school board and was Justice of the Peace. While he was J. P. he was awakened about midnight on a very cold winter night. A young couple was at the door wishing to be married. He started the fire in the fireplace, awakened his wife for a witness, and performed the ceremony. The couple asked what he charged, and he replied he did not make a charge--that some people gave him $2.50 and some $5.00. The young man said, "Thank you very much" and went on his way.

Today, a fourth generation Morrow owns and operates the ancestral farm. A son of H. O. and his wife, Samuel Wilson Morrow, with his wife, Pauline Reed Morrow, carries on a large farming and poultry operation. They are prominent citizens of their community, school district and county.

Other generations of Morrows may yet live in this pioneer home.

The VANCE M. "GUM" BROWN Family

BY BURLENE BROWN HILTON

Vance M. Brown, better known as "Gum", was born near Sparta, Tennessee, White County, in 1830. His parents and family were unknown by descendants, since Vance M. was killed by bushwhackers during the Civil War, and the three sons remembered little about their parents. The one thing the eldest son did remember was that his parents came from White County, Tennessee and his mother was Hannah Dearing. The marriage record in Sparta, Tennessee reveals that Vance M. Brown and Hannah Dearing were married on January 18, 1850.

They came to Washington County in 1850, and settled in West Fork township, exact area unknown, but the 1860 census record reveals the fact that they were still there. Three sons were born: William Crockett, 1850; Waymon, 1855; and Samuel Vance, 1858. Hannah died that same year, and was buried somewhere in this area.

Vance M. remarried to Rebecca Lyons in 1859. After 1860 they moved to Illinois township, two miles north of the present site of Lincoln. They lived on a farm, but Vance M. was a bootmaker by trade. It was here he was killed about 1862 and was buried in the Beaty cemetery. There is no date on his stone which is inscribed "Gum Brown".

His second wife Rebecca married again, and Aunt Polly Weaver who was related and had lived with them for a number of years, reared the three sons. Aunt Polly was the wife of Benjamin Weaver, and they came to the area very early. Benjamin was a soldier in the War of 1812, and an Indian agent in the Going Snake district until his death.

William Crockett Brown married Mary (Sallie) Holt on January 21, 1870. They bought a farm near Aunt Polly's where they made their home, and where their children were born. Alice, born in 1870, married William Jobe. Benjamin, born 1872, married Katherine Rhea. Rhaze L., born 1878, married Nettie Green. Cathrine, born 1881, married Samuel Starr. Ambrose Edward, born 1882, married Edna C. Beaty. William Frank, born 1890, married Anna Moore. Dona, born 1893, married Kelly Armstrong.

William Crockett and family moved to the new town of Lincoln about 1898, and started a general merchandise store--Brown's Cheap Store. In 1902, the town of Lincoln, composed of a few stores, moved about three blocks southeast, and began to build the present town of Lincoln. Here, Crockett Brown purchased one of the first two-story stone buildings, and moved his general merchandise store, operating it until his death in 1921.

His son, Rhaze L. Brown, had been in business, operating the first boarding house and restaurant. In the front room of the restaurant was the first beautiful marble soda fountain, very decorative. There were pretty round tables, and chairs with fancy steel legs and backs. He sold the restaurant to a Mr. Thorpe, who brought the first colorful talking parrot to town.

Rhaze L. took over his father's store for several years after selling his own business. Going to town on Saturday, and to Grandpa Crockett's store, was a treat. He always met us at the candy counter with a sackful of stick candy and "long tom" chewing gum.

My father, Ambrose Edward, known as Edd, was a carpenter and stone mason, but he bought the farm his father and grandfather had owned, and we spent most of our childhood days there.

Cathrine Brown married Samuel Starr. He, too, was a carpenter and many houses and churches in Lincoln were a part of his labors. Frank and his wife Anna were in business in Tulsa all their life. Alice and family also spent most of their life in Tulsa. Dona and Kelly Armstrong were in business in Pea Ridge (Arkansas) all of their lives. Waymon Brown, the second son of Vance M. and Hannah Dearing Brown, married Rebecca Holt on January 5, 1873. They purchased the farm from Aunt Polly Weaver, and lived there for some time. All of their children were born there. They moved to Oklahoma for a short time, then to Fayetteville, where he spent the rest of his life.

During the early days in Fayetteville he owned a livery stable and kept only the finest of horses and carriages, for he admired beautiful horses. But he was also one of the first to purchase an automobile. His was one of the first to venture to Lincoln, and was the first one we ever saw. Waymon lived in a large, two-story house on College Avenue for many years. After his death, his lovely house was one of the first to be torn down to make a place for the bus station. His and Rebecca's children were: Mary, who married a Pyeatte; Emma, married Fred Pyeatte; Elizabeth, married O. P. Stern; Earl; John; Roscoe; Ethel; Mac J.; and Robert L. (Bob), married Nelle George. They owned a business on Lafayette Street for many years, and lived nearby. For several years he was County Revenue Collector. Except for Robert L., Waymon's children all lived in Oklahoma and Texas.

By 1860 to 1870 there were many Browns in Washington County, from Tennessee. Does anyone have ancestors who would connect with the family's roots of Vance M. Brown and Hannah Dearing Brown?

Burlene Hilton, P. O. Box G
Lincoln, Arkansas 72744

Victorian Houses: Not always all white?

BY CAROLYN NEWBERN

Increased interest in historic preservation and restoration, particularly of houses called "Victorian" or "Queen Anne", has encouraged research resulting in a somewhat surprising discovery: these buildings with elaborate wood and shingle trim were rarely painted white. Deep rich--often muddy--color from natural pigments prevailed.

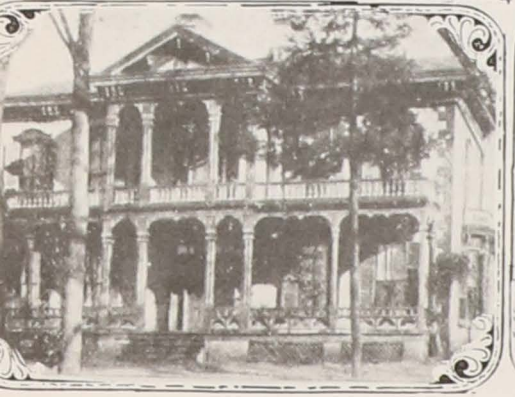
Architects of the Federal style, in the early 1800's, guided by Thomas Jefferson, sought to inspire the citizens of this new country by copying Greek and Roman temples and other buildings, and, as later archaeological evidence proved, they incorrectly painted columns, pediments, and the main body, white.[1] By the 1850's and 1860's, Andrew Jackson Downing, Calvert Vaux, and others were despairing of landscapes of white houses with green shutters as being "not pleasing to the eye"[2], harshly "protruding from the surrounding scenery"[3], and "destroying gradations of distance"[4]. They recommended soft, cool, neutral shades of grey, blue, or beige, with darker shades for cornices, window dressings, and other trims and moldings.

In the 1870's and 1880's, architects advised warmer, bolder use of pigmented dark hues for exterior painting. Dark or olive green, sienna and chocolate brown, deep reds were recommended. The introduction to Exterior Decoration: A Treatise on the Use of Colors in the Ornamentation of Buildings and A Series of Designs Illustrating the Effects of Different Combinations of Colors in Connection with Various Styles of Architecture (published in 1885 by F. W. Devoe & Company, reprinted in 1976, by the Athenaeum of Philadelphia with Devoe Paint chips) describes the Queen Anne style of house as

> ...essentially a comfortable residence...the exterior plan being subordinate to the interior arrangement. It admits the most comfortable and attractive arrangements of the interior, and above all and what most concerns us, it furnishes an opportunity for the greatest display of taste in coloring and exterior decoration. The many fronts, diversified as to material with visible framing, shingle on smooth covering, the gables, the porches, etc., all provide a means for the employment of parti-colored effects, the most attractive and artistically valuable feature of modern house painting, and one that the old box-pattern house, with its plain, flat front, does not so readily admit of.[5]

All concerns should be to make the structure harmonize with

1. *Residence John A. Reed*
2. *Residence J. B. Walker*
3. *Residence Will Berry*
4. *Duke-Stirman-Futrall House*
5. *Walker-Stone House*
6. *Residence Jim McIlroy*
7. *Mary Shelton School*
8. *Residence B. R. Davidson*



the surrounding plantings, landscape, and nearby structures. Size, use and setting, urban or rural, of the building should also help determine colors, with large residences being warmer and darker. Different colors, or different shades of one color were used for the body, shutters, window sash and door moldings, other trim, and roof shingles. Four to seven colors or shades were used on each house. Combinations might have been greyish olive body with deep hunter green, yellow-brown, blue-green, deep red, and red brown; or yellow-brown body with deep hunter green, grey-brown, deep red, rust red, and dark grey-green; or medium grey-green with deep olive-grey and deep red; or deep red with deep green, deep olive-green and rust red; or yellow ochre with blackish-green and two shades of brown. Dark brown was frequently used for houses. Bright colors (blue and yellow, for example) were usually reserved for commercial structures to draw attention.

The 1893 Chicago World's Fair buildings designed by Hunt and McKim-Meade-White returned one facet of architectural emphasis to copying classical buildings, and white paint began reappearing on the American landscape.[6] In the last fifteen years interest in Victoriana has increased, particularly in restoring the quite livable houses with abundance of individual, ornate interior and exterior trim. Researchers found old photographs which showed in sepia tones that the body of the house was not white and that several colors were used to pick out the architectural detail. To discover just what colors were used, restorers scraped paint or, when economically feasible, used microanalysis. Color began to appear again in Victorian neighborhoods.

Although Washington County's geographical location caused it to lag somewhat behind the urban centers in adopting changes in style, evidence exists that parti-colored houses graced our streets. Some photographs from the Washington County Historical Society files are reproduced on the facing page. (Identification of No. 2 is incorrect; it should read J. V(ol) Walker instead of J. B. Walker.) Choice of house color is a very personal matter, but perhaps research and restoration efforts may result in more variety in exterior decoration.

Footnotes:

1. Gowan, Alan, Images of American Living (J. B. Lippincott, Philadelphia, 1964) pp. 245, 262-5.
2. Devoe, F. W. & Company, Exterior Decoration (New York, 1885) p. 8
3. Ibid
4. Ibid, p. 9
5. Ibid, p. 19
6. Gowans, pp. 366, 368-9

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Terrell, David, "Little Rock Story", American Preservation (Vol. I, No. 1, October-November 1977), pp. 62-72.

Zolotow, Maurice, "Victorian Dream", American Preservation (Vol. I, No. 1 October-November 1977), pp. 34-41

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Mrs. C. J. Calico, 58 Sherrill Rd., Little Rock, Arkansas 72205 writes: "Just a note to make a correction in the November 1977 FLASHBACK, page 12--the old Deane School. The name of the Sextons (Jessie, Effie and Ernest) should be spelled S-E-X-S-O-N. Jessie Sexson married Ernest Maguire, lived close to the Kings Cemetery on Middle Fork; had sons Doyle and Johnnie Maguire. Ernest's wife's first name was Clara, but don't know last name. They had children--Mildred and Jack Sexson. I believe Mildred still lives in her folks' home back of the Washington Regional hospital. Jack married B. B. Bronson's daughter--Katherine, I think was her name. Mildred was my teacher in the old Baldwin school in 1937. I don't know who Effie married. They lived in California and I never saw or heard much about them, but I believe they had a daughter Dorothy. There were two more in this family, not pictured--not old enough to go to school, I guess. Aunt Gret Sexson married a Moore--I believe his first name was Sam; no children. The one I knew and loved very much was Frank Sexson who married Amanda C. Ferguson. They had two sons.

BY ROBERT G. WINN

Winslow's Petticoat Government 1925-27

Seated, L. to R. - Her Honor, Mayor Maud Dunlap Duncan; back of her, Mrs. Lyda Cole, Mrs. Florence Marley, Mrs. Audie Crider, Mrs. Bee Cherveny, Mrs. Daisy Miller, Mrs. Etta Black. Standing, L. to R. - Miss Martha Winn, Mrs. Virginia C. Dunlap, Miss Stella Winn.

The campaign began more or less as a joke. In 1920, when the Nineteenth Amendment was ratified by the Congress of the United States giving women of the country equal rights with men at the voting booths, the immediate result was a wave of jokes and stories about women at the polls, and in office, and the foolish things they did. All this lighthearted jesting was on the male side of the polls, of course. The women of the country regarded the newly legislated privilege in an entirely different light. Nowhere else in the country was this attitude more vocally expressed than in Winslow--a tiny village in the Ozarks of northwest Arkansas. It already enjoyed the distinction of being the highest incorporated town between the Alleghenies and the Rockies, and was well known as a flourishing summer resort.

Now, quite suddenly, and almost by chance--certainly by no premeditated design--it found itself in the headlines of leading newspapers across the nation.

Mrs. Virginia C. Dunlap, affectionately known as the "Mother of Winslow", the foster mother of Mrs. Maud Dunlap Duncan (the woman destined to become the first woman mayor in the United States), was the first woman to pay a poll tax in the State of Arkansas after suffrage was granted. Mrs. Duncan was the first woman in the state to become a licensed pharmacist; more important in the political arena, she was editor of the local weekly newspaper, "The Winslow American". Neither of these two women weighed as much as a hundred pounds (when she was elected mayor, Mrs. Duncan weighed eighty-seven pounds); but the power of these two could not be reckoned in pounds. Both of them possessed tremendous will power, determination, and endurance.

So it was, that when jokes began to circulate about the possibility and outcome of having a government by women in town, these two took the matter seriously, and almost before anybody knew what had taken place, a campaign was underway to elect an all-woman city governing body. This body consisted of a mayor and a staff of aldermen. The slate of candidates was selected carefully--by whom and how is somewhat uncertain, but we may be sure that each of these candidates carried the stamp of approval of the candidate for mayor. They were all capable women, well known by their constituents, and familiar with problems of the village. Mrs. Audie Crider, the wife of the former postmaster J. M. Crider, was chosen as City Clerk and Recorder. Mrs. Bee Cherveny had long been in business for herself in the town and had proven that she was capable of managing business affairs. Mrs. Daisy Miller was the wife of C. M. Miller, a successful merchant, and she herself was operator of one of the summer hotels, Hillcrest. Mrs. Etta Hope Black was a widow who had assumed management of her husband's hardware business, upon his death, and had successfully operated it for a number of years. Mrs. Lyda Cole was wife of another leading merchant in town, and a businesswoman in her own right before coming to Winslow. Mrs. Florence Marley was a life-long resident, and a well-known and active member of the community. The treasurer, Miss Martha Winn, was assistant cashier at the Bank of Winslow. At the time, the postmaster (mistress) of the town was a woman, Miss Stella Winn.

With this impressive slate of candidates in back of her, the future mayor launched her campaign. And what better position for the launching than the front pages of the local newspaper! There could be no opposition in the press, since the candidate for mayor owned that paper. When the men of the town realized that the women were quite serious in their undertaking to take over the reins of city government, they quietly (with tongue

in cheek) not only withdrew any candidates they had planned to enter in the race, but united in support of the women. After all, they agreed among themselves, the term of office was for one year only, and it might be interesting and amusing to see what a mess the women could stir up in that time; let them see how incapable these inexperienced ladies actually were. They would never concede this point unless given an opportunity to prove it. There was no hostility; it was all good-natured fun and open bantering between the sexes as to the way things would be run during the year that women were in charge. Predictions floated rampant that each meeting of the female officials would end up either in a hair-pulling fray, or the ladies would sit around, sipping pink tea, and gossiping about their neighbors. So the men gave their support to what they anticipated would be an electoral farce and a year of confusion and frustration for the ladies--and an admission at the end of that time that they really were not capable of handling the reins of government.

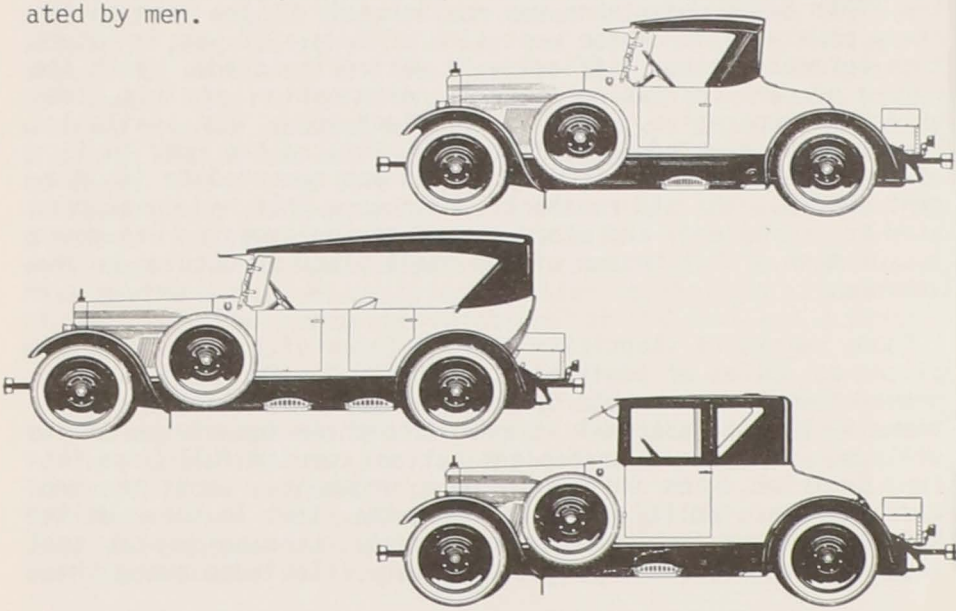
Election day came and went and the candidates were swept into office by a unanimous vote. The men smiled smugly, and sat back to wait for the frustration of the ladies to begin. Not only was no hair pulled, nor pink tea sipped, but the new officers got right down to business in a manner that had not been customary when the men had been in charge. When meetings were called, all were present and ready to participate. Instead of the expected wrangling, there was wholehearted cooperation resulting in more accomplishment than had previously come out of the all-male government. These ladies served without remuneration. The budget of the city was very limited, but the mayor proved most efficient in managing the funds available. One of the first tasks undertaken was realignment of the road up the steep mountainside on the west side of town. It was so steep that automobiles had difficulty in making the grade. With the number of cars increasing steadily, elimination of this steep grade was imperative. When insufficient money was available, pressure was exerted for volunteers to work on the road in lieu of contributing cash. Thus, the road was rerouted to its present course. The old ramshackle calaboose that had never been used to any extent, and stood as a decaying eyesore, was moved out of town. What became of the small block structure is now unknown.

Soon, smirks of skepticism on the faces of the men were replaced by smiles of admiration, as their "weaker sex" partners proved themselves capable of managing local affairs, and additionally brought national attention to their top-of-the-Ozarks village. Newspapers across the nation carried full-page feature articles, with pictures of the incumbents, about the progressive municipality which had been the first in these United States to elect an all-woman government. Leading papers sent reporters to the scene to get the story. Included among these

were the Dallas Morning News, the Ft. Smith Southwest American, the Chicago Tribune, the Arkansas Gazette, and a San Diego paper, all of which gave front-page coverage to the story.

When the women's first term in office was complete and election time rolled around again, a few disgruntled males offered token resistance by becoming candidates but they were defeated overwhelmingly, and the ladies swept into office for a second term, this time without the predictions of failure that had accompanied their first victory. The St. Louis Post-Dispatch on Friday, December 17, 1926 carried a full-page article entitled "Winslow Spruces Up, Gives Away Town Jail, and Re-Elects Its Petticoat Government". The sub-title following stated: "Women in Arkansas Town Elected as an Experiment Tell What They Have Accomplished in Two Years in Office." The article was accompanied by pictures of the mayor and her staff. All the women elected served both terms. The only change was that Miss Lyda Winn, newly appointed assistant cashier of the bank to replace her sister, Martha, who had married and moved away, became the treasurer.

At the conclusion of their second term, the women graciously bowed to the men of the town and relinquished the reins of the government. They had served well and without remuneration, and given generously of their time and talents. The petite mayor found that her other business affairs demanded too much of her time to serve efficiently another term as mayor. And they had proven their point that they were wholly as capable as the men in handling civic affairs, thus stilling the jokes and doubts as to whether they could compete in a world previously dominated by men.



MARRIAGES IN 1886

BY LLOYD MC CONNELL

W. H. Combs, 19, of West Fork and Miss M. A. McGinest, 18, went to Justice of the Peace H. H. Davis for their nuptials on January 6th.

W. M. Combs, 29, of Fayetteville, took Miss Lydia Osburn, 23, of Hazel Valley for his bride December 30th, with Justice W. C. Jarnagan doing the ceremony.

Rufus Conley and Miss Matilda Morgan, ages 30 and 31, of Winslow, were married by Frank Montgomery, justice of the peace on December 12th.

James M. Cope and Miss Nancy C. Smith, Fayetteville couple, went to the Rev. George F. Silvers on November 26. He was 56 and the bride, 44.

The wedding of S. L. Cottrell, 28, of Fayetteville, and Miss D. A. Callison, 20, of Wheeler, was by N. F. Goodrich, an Elm Springs minister, on December 5th.

Rev. Thomas G. Welch performed the ceremony uniting W. H. Cox, 29, and Miss Mollie Pierson, 22, from Elm Springs, on February 12th.

W. S. Cox, 25, of Boonsboro, and Miss Sarah Chambers, 20, also of that village, went to Justice of the Peace Thomas J. Campbell who declared them to be husband and wife. Their date was December 4th.

Shackelford Craven, 20, and Miss Belle Carlisle, 18 years old, were married on August 23rd by M. E. Butts, a minister.

A. N. Crawford, 28, and Miss Laura Bears, 18, of Prairie Grove, were united in matrimony by Rev. W. F. Greene on August 8th.

Rev. H. C. Crowell heard the vows of Farmington couple Ambrose Crisp, 19, and Miss Isabelle Hase, 16, on May 2nd.

An Elm Springs minister, James W. Anderson, performed the wedding for M. F. Croxdale, 23, and Miss Maggie Webster, 18, both of Elm Springs, on November 12th.

James Curtis, 21, and Miss Ella Holcomb, 19, of West Fork, were married on March 29th by Justice M. York. They raised a large family around Prairie Grove.

George Dalson, 36, Fayetteville, and Miss Allice Cate, 20, of that area, were married November 29th by Rev. J. B. Wardrip.

J. H. Dean, 26, and Miss Belle Anderson, 15, took vows before a justice of the peace, J. C. Massie, in Fayetteville, on November 2nd. The couple lived in the Fayetteville vicinity.

Mark Dean and Miss Mary Eliza McRoy, ages 22 and 19, asked the Rev. John Mayes to do their wedding ceremony on October 18th.

A. C. Derby, 26, and Miss L. C. Carter, 17, both of Strickler, were made husband and wife by John V. Smalley, a minister, on July 11th.

The marriage of John W. Dodd, 23, and Miss Elizabeth Campbell, 21, of Evansville, was performed March 10 by J. W. Garrett.

William Dodd of Durham, 26, and Miss Lue Duncan, 19, from Mankins, were married April 12th by Rev. D. C. Mason.

John Dodson, 24, and Miss Julia Larkey, 20, of Boonsboro, went before Justice of the Peace Thomas Campbell and were united by him on December 31st. Happy New Year!

J. W. Donaldson, 23, and Miss S. F. McEwin, 16, of the Goshen area, had a ceremony on January 27th, in the presence of Elder M. Slaughter of Habberton.

N. F. Goodrich, an ordained minister, presided at the ceremony uniting Springdale residents J. S. Downum, 26, and Miss Millie Ramsey, 19. Their date was February 18th.

F. A. Dryden, 23, and Miss Eller Hersey, 22, of Wager in Benton County, were married November 8th by F. Cunningham, a J. P.

D. W. Edminston, 32, and Miss Annie E. Lacy, 27, of Boonsboro, went to the Rev. F. R. Earle of Cane Hill on December 9th, and came away husband and wife.

John S. Edmiston, 45, of Rheas Mill, and Miss Nina Dunlap, 25, of Weddington, were united in a civil ceremony by J. J. Odale, a J. P., on June 23rd.

January 24th was chosen for the marriage of A. A. Edwards, 30, of Elm Springs, and 37-year-old Miss Susan C. Goodrich, with a ceremony by A. C. Smith, a local minister.

SETTLEMENT ON RICHLAND CREEK

BY WALLY WAITS

When considering the impact on an area of a family's settlement, the conclusions are limited by the availability of source material. Speaking of a time 150 years in the past, and of a rural undeveloped area, the restricting scarcity prevents more than a vague understanding from becoming apparent. The case of reviewing the impact of the Holmesley family on the Richland Creek area amply illustrates this. Although contemporary, the source material, land office, census and tax assessment records are quantitative, without giving more than a hint of the quality of living.

Prior to the creation of Washington County, a caravan left Wayne County, Missouri and, crossing the territorial line, entered Arkansas. Thought to have been composed of 18 members, it included the families of John R. Holmesley and two of his daughters, the Michael Masters and the John Austins. A Jonas Austin, perhaps John's brother, may also have been a member. John Holmesley's family was a mature family, with children entering adulthood. These four sons and four daughters who still lived with their parents were between fifteen and thirty years old. Mr. Holmesley was already well past fifty years of age. In 1830, he was listed as one of the oldest residents in Washington County. Despite this, he lived another thirty years, dying at an advanced age.

Completing the makeup of the caravan were the young families of Michael Masters and John Austin. Both Masters and Austin had married Holmesley sisters who were born c. 1804. Michael Masters married Elizabeth "Betsy" Holmesley, but whether prior to westward migration, or in Missouri (after the death of his first wife?) appears uncertain. The marriage of his brother-in-law, John Austin, to Catharine Holmesley probably occurred in Missouri about 1825. Finally, there were four Masters children and a daughter of the Austins in this caravan when it entered Arkansas Territory about 1827.

Pinpointing where the caravan camped after crossing the territorial line is now impossible of course. However, following tenuous leads, it is possible to locate the general area where the first homes were established. The marriage in 1827/28 of Stephen Holmesley to Desscy Vaughan, the daughter of Samuel Vaughan, strongly suggests that the Vaughans and the Holmesleys were living in the same vicinity. Goodspeed reported "...Samuel and Daniel Vaughan settled near Evansville, in Washington County, before the Indian title to that section had been extinguished, and, being encroachers, their improvements were destroyed by the regular soldiers." Thus it would seem that the

Holmesleys were first located "near Evansville", probably to the west on land ceded to the Cherokees.

It was on May 6th, 1828, that much of Lovely County (predecessor of Washington County) was ceded to the Cherokees. This grant to the Cherokees meant that the white settlers living to the west of Evansville no longer had any claim to the land, or to their improvements. Recognizing that some settlers would be reluctant to move, the Federal Government instructed the Army to see that those white families living in the Cherokee cession were removed. In order to make the upheaval more palatable, each head of a family was given a warrant for 320 acres located in the remaining portion of public land. It was under these circumstances that the Holmesleys, with their children's families, resettled on Richland Creek, probably late in 1828.

The origin of Richland Township, which took its name from the creek and the community which grew up along its banks, was directly because of the shift of settlers caused by the Cherokee Cession. Richland Township was created during the March (1829) Term of the Washington County Circuit Court, doubtless on the petition of resettled residents such as the Holmesleys. By the time Sheriff Lewis Evans had taken the Census of 1829, there were eight men out of 33 eligible to vote in Richland Township who are known to have lived west of Evansville, on those ceded lands until being forced to move. These eight were: John R., James, Burrell James, and Stephen Holmesley; Michael Masters; John and Jonas Austin; and Samuel Vaughan. Though there likely were others who would increase this number, these eight men represented twenty-five per cent of the voters in the township. Reflecting the impact the new settlers had on this area, Richland Township's first constable was Samuel Vaughan, one of the men who led his family out of the land ceded to the Cherokees. He was appointed during the same term in which the township was created.

Thus, the Cherokee Cession of 1828 was important to the settlement along Richland Creek, in the eastern part of Washington County. First, the cession forced a redistribution of the settlers, such as the Holmesleys and the Vaughans, who had had the misfortune of having built their homes west of Evansville, through which the boundary of the Cherokee Cession roughly ran. Next, the resulting eastward movement of families promoted the cultivation and development of the Richland Creek area where a number of these families re-established their homes. Finally, increased settlement prompted the installation of local officials to serve in the administration of government in an area which had previously suffered from scarcity and from distance.

The Richland Creek area to which the Holmesleys, Masters and Austins moved, was already showing signs of settlement. The

southern East/West road, running up Richland Creek and then up Cherry Creek, toward the latter day sites of Huntsville, Carrollton and points east, had been serving travelers long before the Holmesleys chose to settle nearby. Evidence suggests that the Thomas Smith horse mill was already in operation at this date, c. 1828. There were already farming improvements in the neighborhood. It is clear that the area was no longer a complete wilderness, but how extensive the improvements were remains uncertain.

When John R. Holmesley entered Arkansas Territory about 1827 two of his children were married, and had growing families of their own. Prior to the movement to Richland Creek, another, Stephen, married c. 1827, thereby adding another family to the list. By the time statehood was declared in 1836, all of the Holmesley children, except Levi who married in March of 1839, had established their own families. The original three families of John Holmesley, Michael Masters, and John Austin, grew to ten within the nine years before 1836.

With the creation of new families came the building of new farms. Each family needed a home, a stable or a barn, a corn crib, a smokehouse, an outhouse, and cleared lands for fields and a garden. Should any of these families have had slaves as did Thomas Smith (the owner of the horse mill) who had about twenty-five slaves, then slave quarters would also have been a necessity. These improvements, as they were called, were the requirements for living a normal, average life. Multiplied by the ten families, considerable energy was spent in establishing homes prior to 1836.

Not until after the original land survey, in 1832, were any significant number of land titles legally established along Richland Creek. John Holmesley filed on his land in 1834 after having lived on it about six years. Sons-in-law John Austin and John Clyne Ernest, who married Nancy Holmesley c. 1829, both purchased land that same year. James Holmesley did not acquire any land during this period. He farmed his agent parents' 185-acre farm.

Two of John and Mary James Holmesley's children's families prospered exceptionally well during this period. Both Burrell James Holmesley and John Austin managed their affairs profitably. Burrell's wealth was derived from sharp trading in livestock and in farming. He was the first Holmesley, in 1833, to have the deed recorded. His first purchase of land was for 40 acres. He bought 45 acres the following year and 277 more acres in 1835. He bought an additional 38 acres in 1836, having made a land purchase in each of the four previous years. Being a large land-owner at this date (he owned 400 acres), indicated the accumulation of wealth. Yet the land that Burrell

J. Holmesley owned was not exceptionally fertile or extensively cultivated land as was that of his father's. While there surely were fields for corn and vegetables, potatoes and probably some tobacco, too, the tax records suggest that he raised and traded cattle for market. He owned two to three times the number of cattle that most families had. When two to four head were sufficient to supply the needs of a small but growing family with meat, milk, butter, and cheese, Burrell owned eleven head of cattle. His livestock, which included a horse in 1837, was valued at $140. In addition to being the family's largest livestock owner in 1837, the total value of Burrell Holmesley's taxable property, including the value of his land, was $1,000.

John Austin's wealth, on the other hand, was derived from a different source. Like most heads of households listed on the tax rolls, he and his wife owned a farm, but their quarter section of land was valued only at the average $3 per acre. The tax records show that their wealth originated, not from land, like most families', but from Mr. Austin's talents for converting the common staple called corn into a refined liquid called whiskey. The distillery he ran was valued at $200 in 1837 and, if the 1840 census is any guide, it produced about 200 gallons a year. His assessable property was valued at just under $900. He was elected as a County Magistrate in October, 1835, a position he held until statehood. After statehood he became a Justice of the Peace.

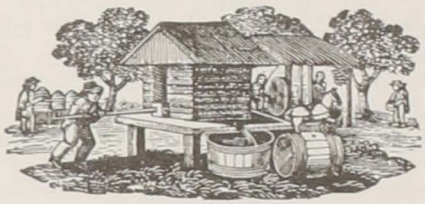
In contrast to the prosperity of the Burrell J. Holmesley and John Austin families, were the families of John C. Ernest, Michael Masters and Henry Randolph Calfee. These families had the misfortune of having early deaths of a parent to adversely affect the economic status, and the orderly future of the family members. The Calfee family suffered the greatest disruption among the children with the death of Julia Holmesley Calfee. Her death may have occurred about the time of statehood when a son, John, was born. John survived until 1850, when he was listed as a member of Adam James' household. Apparently young Cafy (sic), age 14, was helping to work his aged great-uncle's farm. This frequently signals at least the death of a mother and only sometimes the death of a father. A father often left his offspring with the mother's kinfolk, usually her parents, while he set about re-establishing a home. Since Randolph Calfee was listed among those assessed taxes for 1837, it seems probable that the disintegration of this family was permanent. However, uncertainty arises from the scarcity of information.

With her two daughters helping to maintain Adam James' home in 1850, along with John Cafy (sic), the death of Nancy Holmesley Ernest was supported in the same manner. She was alive as of 1833, when her youngest daughter was born. It is believed

that she died between this date and 1835 when the 120 acres of land near Richland Creek, which was thought to have contained her home was sold by her husband. John Ernest moved after this date to Carroll County, where he remarried, leaving his children with their mother's parents, the John Holmesleys. This is another case where the family ceased to exist.

Goodspeed's History says that Michael Masters "...died about 1831, aged forty years." His death caused an interruption in his family's affairs, but not the kind of disintegration which occurred in the Calfee and Ernest families. This seems largely due to the fact that the children remained the responsibility of their mother. When widow Betsey Holmesley Masters married Jesse Hawk, probably within a year or two, these children acquired a stepfather, thereby restrengthening the basic family unit. In addition, the Hawks continued to live in the same area along Richland Creek as a part of the upper middle-class. Thus, the Masters children remained under the care of a parent while they gained a substitute father of sufficient wealth and energy to provide adequate support. These children, also, retained the same relationship toward their Holmesley kinfolk.

During the years before statehood--prior, too, to the legal surgery that produced Madison County--the Holmesley family put down their roots in northwest Arkansas, along the Washington/Madison County border. As a result, a transformation began. When the children grew old enough, they married. Their homes were built clustered together along a creek, near the homes of their parents. The forest and underbrush was cleared for the planting of gardens and crops. Fences were raised to protect the livestock from the wolves and the panthers. They said, as they cleared land and built their homes, that they were making "improvements". Toll was taken through deaths of Michael Masters, Julia Calfee and Nancy Ernest, but farms were being created nevertheless. Their attitude was one of using the Christian work ethic to build productive lives. And productive the Holmesleys were. One measure of that was the number of their children and grandchildren whose lives were spent along Richland Creek. Another was the fact that close to 1,000 acres was under varying stages of cultivation by 1836, after eight years of settlement, with increasing acreage for crops and meadows. Yes, the Holmesleys had an impact, and certainly one that was greater than we can now observe.



QUERIES

Mrs. Bill Terneus, 230 S. E. 17th, Pryor, Oklahoma 74361 would like to know: "Who were parents, wife, or children of Will M. RAMSEY. He lived around Sulphur City in 1907. Can anyone tell me when or where he died? Will wrote religious songs such as: "The Land of Perfect Day," "Some Glad Day", "He Whispers Sweet Peace to Me", and others. I would like very much to hear from anyone who could help."

Mrs. Frank J. Fiore, 1173 Trenton Place, Manteca, CA 95336, is looking for the burial places of her great-great-grandparents: Joshua BROWN, born 1795, Tennessee, died Sept. 22, 1861, Washington County, Arkansas; Ruth Brown, born 1791, Tennessee, date of death unknown, death place Washington County, Arkansas.

Mrs. Jean M. Templeton, 6902 S. W. 65th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97219, says: "In Missouri, in or near the city of Golden, was a family of C. H. PUSARD. Mr. C. H. Pusard married a dark-haired lady. There must have been only a daughter left, as the estate was auctioned off lately in Portland, Oregon, and there were no heirs. They came from Missouri, probably after 1919, as they are not listed in my Portland City Directory for 1919. In the antique shop of Jim and Kathy Hill (7875 S. W. Capital Highway, Portland, Oregon 97219) is their entire estate, which includes many lovely things indicating wealth. There are many Dutch dishes and pictures. There was one beautiful big family album full of family pictures, and other pictures, too many to list, of both men and women, group pictures and singles, a box of calling cards, and a lovely, two-foot-square picture of the mother. I hope this can help someone. It seemed so important that some of this family somewhere know of this."

Joe Cavanaugh, Historian of Prairie Grove State Park seeks information on: (1) all aspects of Battle of Prairie Grove, and those involved; (2) specific information on the BORDEN house, and descendants of the owners of that homestead (a) Hanna DIVENS, (b) Archibald Borden, (c) Robert IRONS, (d) ? BLANTON, (e) Frank P. HALL and Lucy A. V. Hall, (f) Adolphus STAMPS; (3) any other information that might help in any way. Please write to Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park at P. O. Box 306, Prairie Grove, AR 72753, or call (501) 846-2990.

Mrs. Flossie Smith Morrow, Route 5, Box 227Z, Chico, CA 95926, writes, "I am looking for my cousin or her family, Stella Ella Jane HOWELL, a daughter of George and Grace Smith Howell, both deceased. Also, I am interested in Ruben CARNEY descendants in that among his children were my grandmother Martha Jane Howell and her two sisters. They were Josephine Carney BAKER and Meg Carney DIES. Also looking for descendants of Meredith LOFTIN; his wife was Martha Jane RUTHERFORD."

Mrs. Arthur Davidson, 728 East Detroit Street, Chandler, Ariz. 85224 says: "I am looking for people who had a grandmother by the name of CROZIER, children of John Barton Crozier (b. 1799, d. 1864) and Catherine OLIVER (b. 1806, d. 1876); four or five of these I cannot trace. Supposedly they married LEACH, WHITTENBURG, DIXON and others."

Gene B. Pyeatt, 2501 West Chanticleer, Anaheim, CA 92804 says: "In June of 1978 I joined the Washington County Historical Society and at that time also had the opportunity of researching the available records relating to the PYEATTS of Cane Hill. I was unable to locate any detailed records on James Pyeatt (b. 1827), third son of Peter and Mary MILLER Pyeatt. The records reflect a marriage in 1849 between James Pyeatt and Martha Jane DRAKE. They had three children: Mary, Samantha, and Finis. Martha Jane Drake Pyeatt was born November 26, 18--. She died February 18, 1898. Samantha seems to have married Ben M. MITCHELL. I could locate no information on either Mary or Finis. My great-grandfather, James (BENTON) Pyeatt, born 1827, with a birthplace shown only as Missouri, father Peter, mother Mary, is now believed to have been from the Cane Hill area. He married one Margaret WARREN at San Saba, Texas in 1855-56, and he died in 1926-27. He is buried somewhere in Texas. I believe that James, b. in 1827, the husband of Martha J. Drake, and my great-grandfather James (Benton) Pyeatt, born 1827, are one and the same. Also, we believe that Margaret Warren may also have originated from the Cane Hill-Fayetteville area. We would appreciate hearing from anyone with relating information."

Mrs. Blanche McMillan, 901 South 41st Avenue, Yakima, WA 98908 wants information on the ELMS family line. Alta Elms, born on May 2nd, 1830, in Sparta, Tennessee, came to Summers, Arkansas with brother Jones Elms. Jones had two sons, Tom and Jim.

Charles E. Johnson, 3026 Rustic Lane, Charlotte, N. C. 28210, writes as follows: "I have a Query for your next issue, but I also want to pass on to you and perhaps to your readers an interesting anecdote that recently occurred to me as a result of my last Query, and it points up the potential rewards possible from the Queries. My great-great-grandfather was one of the earliest settlers of Cane Hill--coming there in 1829 from East Tennessee. I knew that he was a twin, his twin being a sister, but I didn't know her name. I wrote my first Query since becoming a member in the May issue, asking for any information concerning him--he was Benjamin Franklin JOHNSON--and lo! and behold! I received a letter from a descendant of his twin sister who has worked on the same line for several years. The twins were born on October 14, 1803, in Sevier County, Tennessee, and because of that simple Query I wrote, their life stories can now be rejoined, 175 years after their births! To me this shows the potential value of the Queries to all members,

and I think anyone who has not availed themselves of this benefit is truly missing an opportunity.

"Now for my query for the next issue: I seek information of any kind concerning the families of Jonathan R. WEST and his wife Nancy McINTIRE, who came to Illinois Township about 1829 from Jackson County, Alabama. Thomas West, born c. 1777 in N. C., the father of Jonathan, was with them. I am attempting to trace both families back, and would appreciate anything anyone has.

"I would also like to mention another item that might be helpful to some readers. The Johnson and West families which were so close in Washington County prior to the Civil War, all fled to the area around Fort Scott, Kansas in 1861 and 1862. There were about 75 of them, altogether, and I have had some indication from responses to my last Query that there has been considerable difficulty tracing these families as a result of the departure from Washington County after the 1860 census.

"I am also interested in learning whether there has been any mention made, in previous issues about Cane Hill, of my great-great-grandfather, Benjamin Franklin Johnson. He was resident in Cane Hill for over 30 years and surely he had a part in the history of that area. I appreciate your assistance very much, and so far am delighted with my membership."

(Editor's Note: While the following cannot be classified as a Query, exactly, we think it is so interesting that our readers should be allowed to share it:)

Wolfgang Gscheidlen, Landhausstr. 68, 7000 Stuttgart 1, Federal Republic of Germany, writes: "In 1965, Mr. Walter J. Lemke compiled and edited 'The Hermanns of Old Hermannsburg'. The material for this book was furnished by me since 1960 and we had an egger correspondence concerning this matter. It's a pity that our correspondence had found an abrupt end the 4th of December 1968, when Mr. Lemke died.

"In the mentioned book Mr. Lemke wrote of the miller Dannenberg 'who operated two mills in Washington County but was tied to a tree in Evansville (about 10 miles south of Hermannsburg; one of his mills was standing here) and whittled to death by Indian Tomawhacks'. I learned that descendants of the Dannenbergs are visiting the cimetery at Dutch Mills often.

"The 9th of February 1978 I got a letter by Mr. Russel Brown, Realtor (4411 W. Highline Blvd., Oklahoma City, Okla. 73107). I am sure he got my name and my address out of the book of Mr. Lemke (he didn't mention it). He mentions the Hermanns and other families of Hermannsburg. Mr. Brown wants that I may

help him in finding out names and dates of his ancestors Dannenberg; he has very little information on the Dannenbergs. All what he could tell me, is, that his mother's mother was a daughter of Nathaniel Baron Dannenberg. But he doesn't know the name of Nathaniel's father. He assumes that Nathaniel or his father came directly from Germany 'from the town which was named after this family.' I am not sure if this is true. Dannenberg is a little town near the Elbe, about 3 miles southeast of Lueneburg (Niedersachsen). In 'Neues allgemeines Deutsches Adels-Lexikon' (1929) I read that since the 14th century there were von Dannenbergs in or near Lueneburg. But it must first be proved if the Dannenberg of Hermannsburg came from here.

"I think Mr. Lemke had the intention to search for the origin of the Dannenbergs, because he writes, he cannot furnish something 'until I learn where the Dannenberg descendants are.'

"Karl Friedrich Hermann (brother of my great-grandfather Johann Heinrich Hermann, who founded Hermannsburg in 1853) arrived at Hermannsburg in May, 1853. Here, he made up a store. His neighbor was Dannenberg (his first name is nowhere mentioned in Karl Friedrich Hermann's chronicle). Rassmus (his first name is not mentioned, too) coming from Washington, Missouri, became employee at K. F. Hermann's store; he married the daughter of Dannenberg.

"About 1853 Dannenberg must have come to Hermannsburg. In the Civil War he was selling goods of K. F. Hermann who had asked him to, because he sold goods to the army and had to be absent. Dannenberg was still living in the fall of 1860, because he (and Legg, another neighbor) brought money to K. F. Hermann to bury and hide it. After the death of Dannenberg, K. F. Hermann gave a part of the money to the widow Dannenberg. Then 3/31/67 Rassmus (and Legg) got the rest of the buried money; Rassmus had reclaimed it. K. F. Hermann had found, meanwhile, a living at St. Louis, Mo. with his family and didn't return to Hermannsburg (although his neighbors Rev. Thomas H. Tennant and J. M. Chandler had written him that he and his brother and Julius Wilhelmi might come back). Thus his former neighbors Tennant and M. Weber who lived still at Hermannsburg looked for the digging-out of the money in K. F. Hermann's behalf. It seems that Rassmus lived still in Hermannsburg in 1864.

"Mr. Russel Brown writes: 'I am very much interested in family research and history. Anything that you might be able to help me with would be most appreciated, and I would be glad to pay for any cost incurred.'

"I would be most obliged to you if you would look forward to find out something about the Dannenbergs, maybe out of a list

of the immigrants of the region (at Cane Hill (Boonsboro), Fayetteville or Van Buren?). Certainly there had been too lists of the inhabitants of Hermannsburg, tax lists, as well as recruiting lists, and lists of members of the churches."

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LIBRARY NOTES

The Library Committee has agreed to hold a book sale at the Ice Cream Social (August 19th). Books to be sold are from the Tom Feathers collection, but do not include any titles of historic interest. However, this should not limit interest in the sale, since many of the books were published in the late 1800s and early 1900s, and many authors and subjects are included. Proceeds will go to the Library Fund for equipment and books.

Some of the acquisitions since the last FLASHBACK are:

Picture of 1875 graduates of Arkansas Industrial University; "Life Is My Son" autobiography of John Gould Fletcher; "Fragments of Songs" by Grace Reese Adkins, local poet; three dance programs 1910-12 at University of Arkansas; Dixie Date Book, 1958; U of A Publication "Hogwash" for November 1954. (All from Mrs. Mildred Feathers)

Memorandum brief urging construction of Federal Court facilities in Fayetteville (Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce from Bob Besom)

Alumni Register, 1847-1917, for Illinois State Normal University. (From Mrs. Henry Shreve)

Rev. Wm. Trogdon, papers, journal, and letters made available by Mary Bell, daughter of D. B. Bell who purchased the Fincher place southwest of Fayetteville. Journal, written in pencil, recounts Trogdon's circuit-riding, listing names of persons who provided meals and overnight lodgings in 1878-79. There are 27 letters dating from 1847, 1850, and 1851, and then jumping to the 1878-79 period. Letters, again mostly in pencil, could not be xeroxed but typescripts were made, and xerox copies were made of the 1847, 1850 and 1851 letters. Miss Bell lives in Neosho, and graciously made the material available for copying.

The Liberty Baptist Church Roll and Record Book (Dutch Mills 1883-1909) has been taken by Mrs. Hadfield, who states that it was loaned to WCHS 15 years ago. Persons interested in referring to the book may contact Mrs. Hadfield.

DARLING,
Don't Despair.
We will find it in
Flashback!

Washington County Historical Society

118 East Dickson, Fayetteville, AR 72701

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